

Docket No. p6202



PATENT RECEIVED

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SEP -4 2001

In re Patent Application of:

~~Dabral, et al.~~

Examiner: Norris, J.

TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

~~Application No.: 09/474,345~~

Art Unit: 2841

~~Filed: 29 December 1999~~

~~For: An Inline and Y Input-Output Bus
Topology~~

216/Election/Amend A
R. Tyson
9/17/01

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE A

Amendment and Election

Assistant Commissioner for Patents:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as indicated below.

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In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, lines 9-18, to read as follows:

In general, for the embodiment of Fig. 4b and other embodiments, vias **408** define a regular array. The region between two consecutive rows (or columns) of a regular array of vias defines a channel. For the embodiment of Fig. 4b and other embodiments, bus lines are routed so as to be within or underneath one and only one channel. That is, in an area or region of a board directly underneath an agent that is to be connected to a bus, individual bus traces making up the bus do not cross from one channel to the next. For the particular embodiment shown in Fig. 4b, bus traces **410** and **412** are in one channel, and bus traces **414** and **416** are in

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another channel. Bus topologies such as those according to the embodiments of Figs. 3, 4a, and 4b allow for relatively small stub lengths, and are found to address some or all of the problems cited in the Background.

In the Claims

Please cancel without prejudice claims 6-14

Remarks

Claims 1-5 are presently active, claims 6-14 having been cancelled without prejudice by this Amendment.

In the office action dated 11 July 2001 (Office Action), claims 1-14 were subject to restriction. Specifically, four species were identified in the Office Action, corresponding, respectively, to: (i) Figs. 4a and b; (ii) Figs. 5a and b; (iii) Fig. 6; and (iv) Fig. 7.

Applicants submit that claims 1-14 are grouped as follows: Claims 1-5 are directed to the species corresponding to Figs. 4a and b; claims 6-8 are directed to the species corresponding to Figs. 5a and b; claims 9-13 are directed to the species corresponding to Fig. 6; and claim 14 is directed to the species corresponding to Fig. 7.

By canceling claims 6-14 by this Amendment, Applicants are electing to prosecute claims directed to the species of Figs. 4a and b.

Minor informalities are corrected in the specification by this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Z. Kalson Dated: 8-21-01

Seth Z. Kalson

Reg. no. 40,670

Attorney for Applicants and Intel Corporation (Assignee)